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TENNESSEE WEEKLY  
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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2004 Weather Crop 29

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Week Ending October 17, 2004

MUCH NEEDED MOISTURE ARRIVED

Much needed rain fell over Tennessee last week, aiding pastures and paving the way for wheat seeding. However, the abundant rain brought cotton and soybean harvest to a near standstill. The moisture last week also brought tobacco into case, thus assisting growers in preparing their crop for market. Soybean development continued to outpace last year and stay on-track with the 5-year average. Soybean producers made little harvest progress last week, but their pace is still nearly a week ahead of last year. Cotton defoliation and harvest also continued to be ahead of last year’s pace, but short of the 5-year average. Other agricultural activities taking place last week were seeding winter wheat and harvesting hay. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal, while rainfall was above normal for the entire State. Overall, there were a total of 3 days considered suitable for field work last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 18 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 23 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

| CROP PROGRESS: Through October 17, 2004 |           |           |      |                | CONDITION: On October 15, 2004 |           |      |      |      |     |
|---|-----------|-----------|------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| Crop                                    | This Week | Last Week | 2003 | Five Year Avg. | Item                           | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
| Percent                                 |           |           |      |                | Percent                        |           |      |      |      |     |
| Cotton - Defoliated                     | 91        | 84        | 86   | 93             | Pastures                       | 1         | 6    | 31   | 55   | 7   |
| Cotton - Harvested                      | 40        | 35        | 30   | 57             |                                |           |      |      |      |     |
| Soybeans - Dropping Leaves              | 90        | 83        | 84   | 90             |                                |           |      |      |      |     |
| Soybeans Harvested                      | 44        | 37        | 29   | 35             |                                |           |      |      |      |     |
| Burley Tobacco Stripped                 | 40        | 20        | 30   | 27             |                                |           |      |      |      |     |
| Winter Wheat Seeded                     | 19        | 10        | 38   | 27             |                                |           |      |      |      |     |

**COTTON:** With a little less than ten percent of the State’s cotton acreage remaining to be defoliated, harvest is close to half completed. As weather allowed, harvest continued to outshine last year’s weather-slowed pace, but at week’s end producers were still more than a week behind the 5-year average.

**SOYBEANS:** Soybean harvest slowed last week due to rainfall and poor drying conditions. Growers are awaiting double crop beans to fully develop and drier weather to finish harvesting this year’s crop.

**TOBACCO:** Growers continued their preparations for market last week by stripping an additional 20 percent of the burley crop, surpassing last year and the 5-year average. Moisture conditions were favorable for handling the crop.

**WINTER WHEAT:** Recent rains provided excellent soil moisture for germination. One-fifth of the 2005 winter wheat crop had been seeded by week’s end. Current progress still lags behind last year and the 5-year average, but is not a concern at this point.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Pasture overseeding and fertilizer application continued last week as weather permitted. The State’s pastures benefitted from last week’s rain, and improved to over 60 percent rated in the good-to-excellent category. A few areas in East Tennessee still suffer from dry weather stress in pastures and hay fields.

| TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION<br>For week ending: October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2004 (with comparisons) |   |    |     |     |                 |      |                    |                |               |      |
|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----------------|------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|------|
| LOCATION  | TEMPERATURE                                 |    |     |     | PRECIPITATION   |      |                    |                | GDD BASE 60F  |      |
|   | Week Ending<br>Oct. 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2004 |    |     |     | Current<br>Week | Rain | Current            | Departure      | Since April 1 |      |
|   | HI  | LO | AVG | DFN | 10/17/04        | Days | Since<br>January 1 | From<br>Normal |               |      |
| Ames_Plantation   | 72  | 39 | 58  | -3  | 1.56            | 5    | 44.48              | +3.55          | 2426          | -5   |
| Tri-City_RGNL_A   | 79  | 31 | 57  | +0  | 1.04            | 4    | 41.34              | +7.99          | 1820          | +153 |
| Brownsville_TN  | 75  | 41 | 59  | -3  | 1.89            | 5    | 43.04              | +2.19          | 2593          | +444 |
| Chattanooga/Lov   | 80  | 44 | 62  | +2  | 1.13            | 3    | 42.72              | +0.42          | 2555          | +206 |
| Clarksville_Sew   | 72  | 38 | 58  | -2  | 0.36            | 3    | 30.52              | -9.02          | 2331          | +153 |
| Cookeville  | 81  | 34 | 59  | +2  | 1.21            | 4    | 48.36              | +3.38          | 1933          | +589 |
| Covington   | 72  | 39 | 58  | -4  | 1.07            | 4    | 38.76              | -1.32          | 2288          | -190 |
| Crossville_AP   | 73  | 35 | 56  | +0  | 1.10            | 3    | 48.31              | +4.47          | 1701          | +177 |
| Dickson_AG  | 75  | 35 | 58  | -2  | 1.36            | 3    | 46.52              | +4.32          | 1952          | -305 |
| Dover_1W  | 75  | 38 | 56  | -2  | 1.54            | 3    | 32.23              | -8.96          | 2153          | +217 |
| Dyersburg   | 73  | 39 | 57  | -5  | 1.41            | 3    | 29.23              | -9.80          | 2476          | -156 |
| Erwin_1W  | 79  | 36 | 57  | +4  | 0.79            | 4    | 45.21              | +5.22          | 1754          | -219 |
| Huntingdon_Wate   | 75  | 41 | 58  | -2  | 2.03            | 5    | 41.78              | -0.07          | 2277          | +226 |
| Jackson_Exp_Stn   | 75  | 40 | 58  | -2  | 3.01            | 5    | 40.78              | -0.06          | 2443          | +66  |
| Kingston_AG   | 76  | 39 | 59  | +2  | 1.16            | 3    | 45.39              | -0.69          | 2026          | +245 |
| Knoxville_AP  | 79  | 40 | 60  | +2  | 0.98            | 3    | 40.73              | +3.10          | 2293          | +280 |
| Lewisburg   | 80  | 37 | 59  | +2  | 1.13            | 5    | 48.36              | +5.22          | 2175          | +155 |
| Lexington_TN  | 74  | 40 | 58  | -3  | 2.27            | 4    | 43.35              | +3.54          | 2288          | +853 |
| Linden  | 78  | 40 | 59  | +2  | 1.32            | 5    | 45.45              | +2.28          | 2116          | +75  |
| Martin  | 75  | 41 | 56  | -4  | 2.67            | 6    | 35.89              | -5.53          | 2359          | +95  |
| Mc_Minnville_Tn   | 75  | 38 | 59  | +0  | 2.10            | 3    | 45.75              | +3.53          | 2207          | -322 |
| Memphis_AG  | 74  | 40 | 58  | -6  | 1.19            | 4    | 39.31              | -0.58          | 2602          | -353 |
| Milan   | 75  | 41 | 57  | -3  | 2.66            | 5    | 37.21              | -5.37          | 2269          | +60  |
| Murfreesboro_5N   | 78  | 39 | 60  | +2  | 0.52            | 4    | 41.57              | -0.69          | 2205          | -325 |
| Nashville_Metro   | 78  | 40 | 60  | -2  | 1.61            | 3    | 44.89              | +7.46          | 2460          | +61  |
| Newcomb   | 76  | 31 | 56  | +2  | 1.15            | 4    | 45.74              | +2.03          | 1713          | +284 |
| Oneida  | 74  | 35 | 56  | +2  | 1.23            | 3    | 42.80              | -0.91          | 1771          | -380 |
| Pikeville   | 76  | 36 | 59  | +0  | 0.95            | 3    | 43.96              | +1.88          | 2125          | +164 |
| Portland_TN   | 74  | 39 | 57  | -2  | 1.57            | 4    | 47.09              | +6.64          | 2083          | +108 |
| Pulaski_Water_P   | 78  | 40 | 60  | -2  | 0.82            | 5    | 53.04              | +9.77          | 2156          | -219 |
| Savannah_6SW  | 76  | 41 | 59  | -3  | 1.05            | 3    | 52.59              | +8.53          | 2309          | +202 |
| Sparta_TN   | 79  | 33 | 60  | +3  | 1.64            | 4    | 50.23              | +6.70          | 2248          | +541 |
| Springfield   | 78  | 37 | 57  | -1  | 1.72            | 5    | 44.12              | +5.20          | 2112          | +136 |
| Springhill  | 82  | 37 | 60  | +3  | 1.82            | 3    | 47.27              | +4.27          | 2290          | +281 |
| Union_City  | 76  | 40 | 55  | -4  | 2.74            | 6    | 35.43              | -5.00          | 2109          | -75  |
| Waynesboro_TN   | 76  | 41 | 59  | +2  | 1.67            | 5    | 54.32              | +9.42          | 2078          | -192 |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).    GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.    Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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